



PATENT
5589-02305/P688-05

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application of:
Nikoonahad et al.

Serial No. 09/957,468

Filed: September 20, 2001

For: METHODS AND SYSTEMS FOR
DETERMINING A CRITICAL
DIMENSION, A PRESENCE OF
DEFECTS, AND A THIN FILM
CHARACTERISTIC OF A SPECIMEN

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Group Art Unit: 2877

Examiner: Pham, H.

Atty. Dkt. No. 5589-02305

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the U.S. Postal Service with sufficient postage as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to: **MS: Non-Fee Amendment** Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA, 22313-1450 on the date indicated below:

Oct. 31, 2003
Date

Pamela Gerik
Pamela Gerik

AMENDMENT; RESPONSE TO OFFICE ACTION MAILED JULY 31, 2003

MS: Non-Fee Amendment
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Dear Sir/Madam:

This paper is submitted in response to the Office Action mailed July 31, 2003 to further highlight reasons why the application is in condition for allowance.

Amendments to the Specification begin on page 2 of this paper.

Amendments to the Claims are reflected in the listing of claims which begins on page 32 of this paper.

Remarks begin on page 46 of this paper.

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